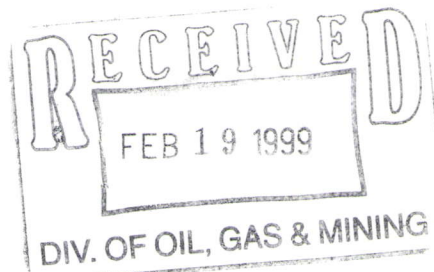




ENVIRONMENTAL INDUSTRIAL SERVICES

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S/015/071



Threatened and Endangered Species Inventory Blue Castle Mine GoldTerra

On February 3, 1999 EIS Environmental and Engineering Consulting performed a threatened, endangered & sensitive (TES) inventory of the proposed road (approximately 700 feet) and the proposed mine site (approximately five acres) for the Blue Castle Mine located in Emery County, Utah. (See attached Figure 1). The inventory was conducted by Mel A. Coonrod and David Steed from the firm of EIS located in Helper, Utah.

The road centerline was flagged on-site. An area of 50 feet on each side of the centerline was inventoried. The mine site was identified on the ground by wooden lath with pink flagging. The entire site, including an additional 25 feet buffer zone, was inventoried.

The following plant species have been identified as potential inhabitants of this area. Of the plants listed below, none were located within the proposed area of disturbance.

-catseye crypantha	<i>Cryptantha creuzfeldtii</i>
-canyon sweetvetch	<i>Hedysarum occidentale</i>
-cactus	<i>Sclerocactus</i>
-foot cactus	<i>Pedoecactus despainii</i>

Animal species that were specifically identified as potential inhabitants of this area are as follows:

-ferringenous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>
-golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>
-burrowing owl	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>

The entire area of disturbance was inventoried as well as and additional 25 feet buffer zone around the proposed mine site. No evidence of the above listed species were observed.

**-PAGE TWO-
TES INVENTORY**

Three burrows were located, one of which appeared to be active.(See Exhibit 1) There was no evidence of black-footed ferret or burrowing owl activity at this site. The habitat was not suitable for loggerhead shrike nesting. No shrubs or trees of sufficient height are located in or near the proximity of the proposed area of disturbance. (See exhibit 2).

A raptor inventory was conducted in the spring of 1998 by Utah Division of Wildlife Resources and EIS personnel. No active or tended nests of any raptors were observed within a one- mile radius of the proposed mine site. However, the pinyon-juniper bench to the west was not inventoried for the nesting raptors. The inventory was concentrated on the escarpment and rubble strewn slopes adjacent to the mine location.

CONCLUSIONS:

Based on the above inventory, no listed TES species were located within the area of potential disturbance.